

FACE TO FACE

ministries

Dear Father,

It is with great joy and hope that I write to you about FacetoFace Ministries. As pastors, we work hard to grow the faith of our people through preaching, celebrating the Sacraments, teaching, and offering various parish ministries. As wonderful as all this is, I often find that the people need more.

I'm sure you've seen this: parents come to have their babies baptized, and we don't see them until the next child comes; couples come to us for marriage and we rarely see them again; youth come to Mass with their schools or their parents, but it seems our message isn't reaching them. What can we do?

If there were an easy answer to this question we'd all be doing it already. With FacetoFace I haven't found a cure-all, but I have found a very effective tool for reaching youth, and through them, their parents, with the saving message of Jesus.

I've seen lives changed. All of the most active, faith-filled, joyful youth in my parish have either discovered or greatly deepened their faith at FacetoFace events. With their direct focus on helping youth to encounter Jesus and live the fullness of the Catholic faith, they are able to talk to youth and teach them to know Jesus in ways that a Sunday homily rarely can.

I serve on the FacetoFace Board of Directors. We meet on Mondays, which means once every three months I sacrifice a good part of my holy day off for this ministry. Why? Because I continue to witness it changing lives. It's my great honor to support this ministry, and my great joy to see the difference it makes in the lives of youth and their families.

For your youth, for your families, and for your parish, I strongly encourage you to consider inviting FacetoFace Ministries to your parish or sending youth to their events. Blessings on your ministry.

Yours in Christ,



Fr. Matthew Ramsay
Pastor, Saint Anne's Parish, Saskatoon, SK
Vice chair, FacetoFace Board of Directors